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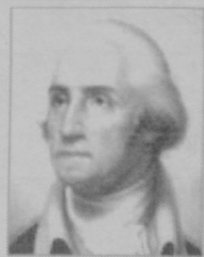
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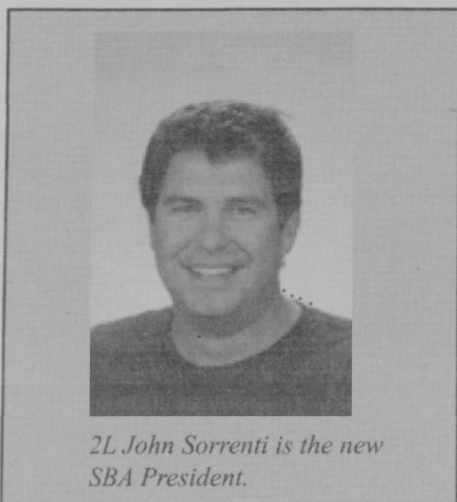
## Student Body Elects Sorrenti as Next SBA President

BY KATIE EARNEST  
*Editor-in-Chief*

On Tuesday, February 24th, the student body elected John Sorrenti as the SBA president for the 2009-2010 academic year, pending certification by the student Senate.

Sorrenti, a 2L from Worcester, Massachusetts, is a graduate from Stanford University. During his campaign, he centered his campaign around a quote from the Grateful Dead that said, "You who choose to lead must follow." Upon learning that he had been elected, Sorrenti said, "I am humbled by the amount of interest and so honored to be chosen to represent the student body and can't wait to get started. Next year will be a lot of hard work, challenging, but something I really look forward to and for me it'll be an excellent time to build the true GW community."

He expressed gratitude to those candidates who chose to run, saying "I'm ecstatic, it was a very hard-fought campaign. I have to thank both Kenny and Dvid Mitchell for running competitive and important campaigns. Very hard-fought, lot of student participation and interest that I was thrilled to see. Both ran excellent campaign and solid ideas and the whole



2L John Sorrenti is the new SBA President.

election cycle will only be good for SBA and student body as a whole because it brought up a lot of issues, a lot of things need to be improved."

When asked about his future first act as president, Sorrenti imparted, "Ideally I'd like to give it a little more thought before I say anything, but I would like to come through on engaging in student groups and have a meet and greet with student orgs executive boards...try and have a meeting of all them and allow

us to get on the same page about some of their concerns." "The main thing is working on a solid communication structure, reassuring students that I am intent on setting senate schedules, being communicative, being transparent about the things the SBA is doing and letting people know that complaints, concerns, issues are recognized, acknowledged and getting worked on."

Sorrenti said, "I would encourage students to contact me, get in touch with me, find my email and I fully intend to engage the student body since communication seems to be the buzzword - as long as the wireless is working!"

In addition, the student body also elected 2L Liz Westbrook as Executive Vice President. When told she had been elected, Westbrook said, "It is really exciting and a relief after spending two years devoted to the SBA and making that my main activity."

Westbrook said that she was excited to work with Sorrenti, and that her first task would be to "redelegate the executive positions and which positions fall to

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## ILS Gears Up For Internat'l Law Week

BY CLARE CAVALIERO  
*Features Editor*

What a great week to return from your Mexican vacation! International Law Week consists of daily events the week of March 9-13, 2009 - the week directly following Spring Break. When all of the upperclassmen arrive back to the Law School with their sunburns and stories and the lowly 1Ls emerge from the bowels of Burns Library after the journal competition (or, for some, after starting their outlines in preparations of finals), they will be in the midst of this exciting week. Hopefully it will ease the depression of returning back to the grind.

International Law Week is the International Law Society's most exciting and rewarding annual event. Over the course of five days, International Law Society members and GW Law affiliates are invited to participate in many academic and professional conferences. The International Law Society executive board has spent countless hours programming lectures, social events, and "field trips" throughout the week, which will culminate in an Embassy Gala on Friday evening. Some of the other events include: career planning sessions, visits to the State Department, roundtable discussions with NGO officials, and informal receptions with practitioners. The International Law Society has had a very successful year and is celebrating their achievements by sponsoring these programs.

On Monday, March 9 at 3pm, the honorable Ambassador Lintu will make a private presentation at the Finish Embassy. At 5pm in the Student Conference Center, an Eastern European legal practitioner will discuss the functional realities of practicing law in the former Soviet Bloc. At 8pm in the Student Conference Center, international law practitioners will be part of a roundtable discussion regarding their careers in the international law field.

On Tuesday, March 10 at 11:30am in the SCC, Mr. Jean-Jacques Verdeaux, Senior Counsel in the Legal Department of Procurement & Consultant Services, and Mr. Joe Rio, an international development consultant, will participate in a panel discussion about the World Bank and International Development. Later

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## Students Descend on Moultrie Courthouse for Spring Mock Trial Competition

BY TIMOTHY FREY  
*Staff Writer*

Shortly after 8 a.m. this past Saturday morning, swarms of eager 1L's descended on the D.C. Superior Courthouse. Clad in suits and toting briefcases and easels, over 100 students funneled through security to fill the lobby and all first floor corridors. They did not come to interview for job prospects, receive outlines from Barbri, or even enjoy free booze, they came to compete in the annual Mock Trial Spring Competition.

Hosted by the GW Mock Trial Board, this year's competition was comprised of 212 students. The competition took place all day Saturday and Sunday, with twenty-six teams competing in the

morning session, twenty-five competing in the afternoon, and two competing at the GW Clinic Building on Sunday. The teams were made up of two first year competitors and their "witnesses," playing the roles of an accused sexual predator, an FBI agent, and two psychologists. Their trials were presided over by local practitioners - law clerks, DOJ attorneys, JAG attorneys, firm associates, and the like - and scored by second and third year Board members.

Third year student Chris Landrigan wrote the fact pattern for this year's problem. In it, thirty-five year old Ralph Richards is accused of crossing state lines

to engage in sexual acts with a minor. Richards had engaged in online chats with "xxBarbieGirlxx," a "fourteen-year old female" who was actually an FBI agent. Richards proceeded to drive his van to a park to meet up with this girl only to be arrested upon arrival. However, at the time he was arrested, Richards was wearing a t-shirt that boasted, "Smile, I'm on To Catch a Predator," and carrying an index card explaining that this was all a joke made in an effort to appear on the popular television show. Accordingly, the competitors had to prove what Richards actual intent was in driving to the park that afternoon.

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NEWS

NOTA BENE

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NOTA BENE IS A BI-WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL. NOTA BENE SERVES AS A FORUM FOR NEWS, FEATURES & OPINIONS IN THE LAW SCHOOL COMMUNITY. WE SEEK SUBMISSIONS FROM STUDENTS AT GW LAW SCHOOL.

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Newly-Elected SBA  
Positions for 2009-2010

President:  
John Sorrenti

Executive Vice President:  
Liz Westbrook

Day Division Senator:  
Deep Singh

Evening Division Senator:  
Sterling Marchard

4L Evening Senator:  
Vacant

3L Day Senators:  
Eric Malis, David Mitchell,  
Navah Spero, Jonathan Ruckman

3L Evening Senator:  
Ben Williams

2L Day Senators:  
Theresa Bowman, Dan Janow,  
Jonathan Gaffney, Randy Fiedler

2L Evening Senator:  
Vacant

\*\*\*Note: All election results are unofficial until ratified by the SBA Senate and all write-in candidates

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Chris states that his inspiration for this problem was a conversation he had with a roommate during his first year in law school. According to Chris, “we were watching ‘To Catch a Predator’ and thinking about possible defenses the guys could raise.” His roommate suggested that the suspect may wear a t-shirt like the one in this case to get out of any charges. In addition, Chris “thought it would be fun to do a sketchy problem,” and wanted to do a computer crimes case. He notes that he had a good time writing this problem because, unlike the problem for the Cohen and Cohen competition that he wrote this fall, it was limited to one issue.

The problem was released to the competitors in the middle of January and they spent the last month crafting their case. Assigned either to prosecution or defense, the competitors were given an upper-level student as a coach and provided with tip sessions on how to be an effective trial advocate. The sessions were given by JAG attorney Rock Rockenbach, who also presided over the final round on Tuesday.

Overall, the competition was a success. According to Mock Trial Board President Kristalyn Loson, “from what I’ve heard it seems like the level of competition has gone up along with the numbers of people. With the economy people are realizing how important skills board memberships can be to differentiate themselves from other applicants.” Second-year students Farah Sheriff and David Myers served as the Spring Competition Co-Chairs, which involved a great deal of planning and preparation. According to Farah, “I definitely put in more work planning the competition than competing in it last year.” David adds that “it was much more fun to compete.” Nevertheless, Farah concludes that the event “was a fun,” and that she “hopes the competitors enjoyed it.”

Likewise, Kristalyn “was impressed with how smoothly the event ran this year. We didn’t have to substitute any board members for competitors and everybody showed up, which in the world of competitions is a golden feat.” Finally, Kristalyn notes that the Board “appreciates the cooperation of our local courts;

without them we wouldn’t be able to hold such large competitions.” The Board also is grateful to Firehook, who catered the event with coffee and croissants in the morning and box lunches in the afternoon. Spring Competition Assistant Chair Danielle Leon explains that the restaurant “made us tax exempt and included free coffee – it was a great deal.”

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that day, there will be a discussion of Pro Bono Training on Worker’s Rights, as the International Law Society has teamed up with the Employment Justice Center’s Worker’s Rights Clinic to provide legal assistance. In conjunction with the East Asia Law Society, there will be a panel discussion on the topic: “The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on China and the World.”

On Wednesday, March 11, Nadira Bayat of the South African Embassy will hold a discussion on the legal system of South Africa. There will also be an insider’s tour of the U.S. Department of State followed by a briefing on several issues concerning the Center currently. Attorneys in the Legal Adviser’s Office will discuss legal careers in the State Department including internship and full-time employment opportunities. A film screening at the Embassy of France is going to be that evening at 7pm followed by a trip to a French café.

Thursday, March 12 begins with a discussion on the legal and political questions in Bulgaria held by the honorable Ambassador Petkov at the Embassy of Bulgaria. There will be a panel of asylees from a wide range of countries who have sought refuge for various issues. Thursday will end with a Happy Hour at Bodega, a Spanish tapas bar in Georgetown.

On Friday, March 13 there will be an insider’s tour of the Supreme Court. Participants will have the opportunity to meet the Clerk of the Court and view other areas of the court open to the public.

The week culminates with a celebratory evening at the Embassy of Ukraine within the Forrest-Marbury House, located in the heart of Georgetown. Embassy staff will be in attendance and the honor-

able Ambassador Oleh Shamshur will make remarks during the gala. Cocktail attire is required. Linda Riter said, “A fun fact about the embassy gala: the gala sold out on the first day of ticket sales! We are getting in touch with the embassy to see if more tickets might be released and starting a waiting list for students who didn’t get their tickets in time. We are very excited about this development, and think it demonstrates just how great the week is going to be!” Some tickets are available for reservation through a sign-up sheet on TWEN or can be purchased on Thursday, February 19 and Monday, February 23 in the Hard Lounge.

For some events, RSVPs are required and dress codes may be in effect. Breakfast, lunch, or dinner will be served at each event. Contact International Law Week Coordinator, Linda Riter, for more information.

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which people.” She noted that currently, more responsibility falls to fewer people in the SBA, which leads to the “less people getting involved and more people are stressed to the max.”

Kim Clark, a 2L, said “Liz Westbrook was definitely the most qualified candidate and deserved the Vice President position. There are few people that are as passionate about GW Law and getting involved as Liz Westbrook. And I am positive she will do an amazing job!”

1L Dan Gerkin said, “John and Liz seem like they have a fantastic attitude and the ability to get things done without taking themselves too seriously.” A member of the 2009 Law Revue cast, he added, “Liz must have the best voice of any SBA Executive VP in GW Law history. I’m sure she’ll be just as strong a voice for the student body, “ with a drum noise to accent the apropos joke.

Along with the executive positions, several new faces will also be appearing in the student Senate. Other positions include Deep Singh as Day Division

Senator and Sterling Marchand as Part-Time Senator. Eric Malis, David Mitchell, Navah Spero, and Jonathan Ruckman will serve as 3L Day Senators, and Ben Williams will be the 3L evening Senator. Theresa Bowman, Dan Janow, Jonathan Gaffney, and Randy Fiedler will be the 2L Day Senators.

Singh, a 1L, said, “It’s a surprise and an honor to see that people across classes put their trust in me. As a new DDS, my first priority is making free floss available—don’t underestimate the importance of good dental hygiene. Second, I will continue to address the issues folks have brought to me, like the wireless problem.”

2L David Mitchell, who originally ran against Sorrenti for president, said, “I want to congratulate the winning candidate John Sorrenti and let all the candidates know that I appreciate the healthy productive race under which many issues were discussed and I’m looking forward to working with the pres elect and EVP... and to make GW Law the best law school it can be.”

2L Navah Spero said, “I’m very excited, it feels really good, I’m happy campaigning is over.” For her first goal, she said, “I would say that my biggest plan for legislation would be for the budget transparency for the SBA and more on the active getting stuff done practically, working on a better way to address the wireless problem.” To the student body, she asked that they “keep lines of communication open and keep telling us what they really want.”

3L Brett Sheats, the current SBA President, had this to say to the incoming candidates: “I wish next year’s SBA Administration the best of luck. The relationship that the Student Bar Association enjoys with the administration and faculty here at GW Law is one of the finest in the country. I truly hope that the foundation that we have laid this year will only serve to help John, Liz, and the rest of the SBA achieve whatever goals they set”



## OPINIONS

# 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Policy Holds GWU and Students Hostage

BY JODIE GRAHAM  
Special to the Nota Bene

Last December, freshman Todd Belok was dismissed from GW's Navy ROTC after two of his fellow midshipmen reported that they saw him kiss a "special friend" at a fraternity party. Mr. Belok had long wanted to serve in the Navy and was described by a peer as "one of the most qualified midshipmen in the year." Nonetheless, he has now been banned from the program under the statute most commonly known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT), despite GW's nondiscrimination policy.

In 1993 Congress enacted DADT,

***It is saddening and incredibly frustrating for LGBT students to see the military use their own school's facilities to unabashedly discriminate against them.***

intending it to serve as a compromise between supporters and detractors of the ban that barred gay people from serving in the military. The law allows homosexuals to serve in the military, but forbids any speech or conduct that would reveal their sexual orientation. Under DADT, the mil-

itary will discharge a service member for making a statement to anyone, anytime, anywhere, that he or she is gay; having any physical contact with a person of the same sex for sexual pleasure (this includes hand holding); or marrying or attempting to marry someone of the same sex.

Many law schools determined that DADT violated their non-discrimination policies and so denied military recruiters access to their Career Development Offices. In response, Congress enacted the Solomon Amendment, which denies federal financial assistance to all schools and programs of a university if any one division does not give the military access to students that is equal to what any non-discriminating employer would receive.

Under this significant financial pressure, most law schools, including GW, now allow military recruiters on campus, even as they protest the military's explicit discrimination through written objections or disclaimers in career fair advertisements. Admittedly, the schools find themselves in an unenviable position, but it is still saddening and incredibly frustrating for LGBT students to see the military use their own school's facilities to unabashedly discriminate against them. The greatest disappointment here is that Congress, seeking leverage to strong-arm unwilling schools to accept the military's discriminatory policies, has resorted to

See DADT on Page 6

# Sharpton and the NYP Controversy: Relevancy or Race?

BY RYAN BOWEN  
Opinion Columnist

A lot has been made in the past few days about an editorial cartoon that the New York Post ran last Wednesday. If you haven't seen it, shows two police officers standing in front of a chimpanzee who has clearly just been shot by one of the officers. The one cop says to the other "They'll have to find someone else to write the next stimulus bill."

When I first saw this cartoon, I honestly had no clue what the joke was. The tie between a chimp and the stimulus bill was just too attenuated for me. Apparently, the comment the cartoonist was trying to make here was that the stimulus bill is so lousy it may have well been written by crazy chimps (which is probably true). What I also did not understand, however, was why Al Sharpton and others had come out and criticized this cartoon as being racist. When I read that he claimed that the newspaper was trying to compare President Obama to a chimpanzee (which would obviously carry strong racial overtones), I was shocked. The impropriety of comparing an African-American to an ape is an entirely moot point, because the simple fact of the matter is that Barack Obama DID NOT WRITE THE STIMULUS BILL!

The first version of the economic stimulus bill that went to the House was written by Congressman David Obey, an old white guy from Wisconsin. The mas-

sive pork in the legislation also serves as evidence that it could only be a creation of Congress. I doubt very much that Obama really wanted billions for a train to run from Las Vegas to Disneyland, but Senator Harry Reid does.

The real issue driving the backlash against the Post is instead Al Sharpton's desire to get back into the limelight. For

***The real Al Sharpton cares more about his own publicity than actually improving racial relations***

better or worse, Sharpton once considered himself the face and voice of Black America. Obama's rise to power has eclipsed him completely. The President's popularity among people of all races is something that Sharpton could never even dream of.

Obama's ascendancy has also dealt a serious blow to Sharpton's cause. To be sure, the election did not signify the end of racism in this country, or put a stop to discrimination, but it symbolized a paradigm shift, where people turned their attention away from how African-Americans were being held down, looking instead at how they have risen up. Sharpton's way, shouting "fire" at the slightest hint of smoke

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# Shirtsleeves and Stigmata

BY ADAM R. PEARLMAN  
Opinions Editor

Beginning shortly after 9/11, President Bush and others began to wear flag pins on their lapels to symbolize our unity as a nation, and to show their support of our troops in the field. Especially as months and years went by, however, many detractors of Operation Iraqi Freedom and other measures taken in the name of national security interests grew increasingly skeptical of the gesture, some going so far as to adopt a mantra of, "I don't need to wear my patriotism on my sleeve to love my country."

In quite a literal way, they were entirely correct – nobody needs to wear any token symbol to be a true patriot. What's more, there's no denying that a certain hesitation by thinking persons is both natural and preferential when any person or group tries to justify extreme measures with skimming appeals to patriotic sensibilities, just as we have a right to be critical of anybody who couches their principal policy arguments in ways that seize upon our core belief structures and

nothing more. We learned as children that "Because I said so" with its only clear support being the status of the person saying it, is an impossible predicament. It appears to be a mere conclusion, not grounded in any logic against which we are free to measure its virtues, nor weigh its costs and benefits.

But we have also learned as we've grown older that just because our parents so often resorted to base-conclusions without apparent reason, what they compelled us to do (or not do) was not necessarily wrong. Indeed, more often than not, their laziness in explanation was merely that, and did not stem from a carelessness of their reasoning.

This is not to argue that President Bush's policies, particularly the ones noted above, were right or wrong, but only is intended to acknowledge that the patriotism reflected by his and many others' flag pins is very real and noble indeed, and that the frustration of those who exhibited such hostility to overt displays of patriotism

was very much misplaced. There were reasons behind the pins – good ones. The flag itself was President Bush's expression of hope, faith, and above all, unity.

The irony now, however, is that many of those same Americans who refused for one reason or another to wear a flag pin, are to this day wearing Obama pins. Four and a half months after the election, and more than a month since President Obama came to office, campaign pins are still worn by people all

***While Candidate Obama came to symbolize the many aspirations we maintain and achievements for which we aim, President Obama is nothing above the ideals of this nation, and his graven image does not supplant the flag.***

over town. This is not a sign of unity, or a sign of patriotism, but rather a suggestive of more narrowly-tailored pride, and faith placed in a single man rather than a nation. While Candidate Obama came

to symbolize the many aspirations we maintain and achievements for which we aim, President Obama is nothing above the ideals of this nation, and his graven image does not supplant the flag. Indeed, even all of the tensions of the election largely boiled down to the fact that Obama embodied the flag's promises; McCain, its principles.

For a plethora of reasons, examined exhaustively in these pages and elsewhere, the flag's promises prevailed at the polls. And we were all of us, regardless of our votes, blessed with Hope for Change. And still, immediately, expectation management began, and we knew we were in for a long haul. And because of this, only a month into the new administration, nobody can really fault the Change for be-

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The Nota Bene invites readers' opinions. Letters must be signed, dated and include a graduation year or title. E-mail submissions to notabene@law.gwu.edu

The Nota Bene reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, grammar, clarity and vulgarity.



Features

# Law Revue 2009: A Review

By KRISTLE CADOGAN  
Staff Writer

Lisner Auditorium pulsed with energy and excitement on Saturday February 22, 2009. Anticipation filled the air as law students, their guests and others filed in. In the darkened hallway leading into the auditorium, the warm greeting of legal laughter welcomed everyone to Law Revue 2009.

Near the beginning of the show, there was an odd scene on the stage. There were bottoms, human bottoms facing the audience. As “The School of the Law” began, a joy filled the room that was palpable. We will never look at “The Lion King” in the same way again. The exuberant dancing, boisterous singing and galloping antelope were awe-inspiring. When the spotlight came down on that giant Bluebook we knew that we were a part of the GW Law circle of life.

The trials and tribulations of law students were a major theme of the 2009 Law Revue. From the close-knit families of LRW groups to the psychological stress of being at the top of the class, the Law Revue used humor to expose the academic and social perils of the law school.

On a different note, Law Revue reminded us that knowledge is power. Always ask about hygiene practices before eating sandwiches around the law school. Bring a large container of 100% proof antibacterial wipes to the study rooms down in the stacks. The more you know...

Have you ever felt an attachment to

*The hills were alive with  
the sound of law school  
singing last night.*

the law school beyond the superficial? Do you feel tingles when you first catch sight of the law school after walking in from the metro station? Consider watching “Brokeback Law School.” Day after day, some of us just keep coming back. We just can't seem to quit the law school!

“To Catch a Gunner” provided comedic relief through the evening. As indicated by the title, these short segments focused on the hidden habit of being ...a gunner. The title and format were especially appropriate given the related material of “To Catch a Predator” in the 1L Mock Trial competition. The up-close and aerial view camera shots were great.

“The New Grading Policy” was one of the best skits of the night. The skit focused on the new LRW grading policies. I never knew a story involving llamas could be that funny. Really. When evaluating grades, think parabolas people, not curves.

Law Revue featured everyone's favorite intellectual game show: “Law School Jeopardy”! The impersonations of professors were highly entertaining. Sean Connery livened up the night with colorful comments that caused the room to erupt in laughter.

If you are looking for a telecast that features humor, sarcasm and honest opinions “Law Revue News” is the place to look. The telecast portrayed a memorable competition between Terry Schoone-Jongen and Steve Satterfield. If you did not know who Roe was before,

you know who she is now. Remember your periods!

The singing and dancing thorough the night was impressive. The hills were alive with the sound of law school singing last night. From “The Queen” to “Gun-nah's Paradise” to “Hey Thea Johnson”

and other musicals law school voices were ringing.

There were many skits, musicals, short films and news clips presented during the Law Revue. Every act was performed with heart and spunk. The room was filled with jubilee. In spite of

the economic, academic and personal challenges we face, Law Revue brought us together to celebrate. Thank you for your hard work. Way to be courageous and hilarious. Cheers to Law Revue 2009!



Dan Gerkin and Ashley Inderfurth rehearse “Moot Me, Baby” for the Law Revue show.

Photo by Katie Earnest



A group performs during rehearsals for the Law Revue show.

Photo by Katie Earnest



## Features

# Bar Brief: Rhino Bar & Pumphouse

BY SET SAMII AND LISA STRAUSS  
*Columnists*



*Trust Us, We're Experts*

We promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. As future members of the DC Lawyers Assistance Program, we are proud to present a bi-weekly run-down of DC hotspots. This week we're doing a review of Rhino Bar & Pumphouse, the February 21 Law Revue after-party bar selection.

Before getting into this review, we'd like to re-introduce ourselves to you, our now faithful readers. Set is a recent graduate of George Washington University and DC's very own former bar wench. You might have already met her at Bar Review, since every Friday at least 10-15 new people know her by name and have an inside joke with her. Lisa, fresh from the Chicago working world, is thrilled to be in a new city, with new bars. You might also have met Lisa at Bar Review, especially if she torture racked you and asked for outlines.

## Rhino Bar & Pumphouse

**Case:** February 21, 2008 Review of Rhino Bar & Pumphouse, located at 3295 M Street NW. Neither one of us is a huge fan of this sports bar (mainly due to a complete ass of a manager), but once we heard there was going to be a \$4000 tab, our previous reluctance to revisit this bar immediately disappeared.

Before getting into the meat of our review, we'd like to take this space to give a HUGE shoutout to the Law Revue performers. We had no idea we went to school with so many musically and theatrically talented people. Like seriously, who knew half of the students here were undercover opera singers? We'd heard amazing things about shows in years past and this year's performance did not let us down. We were thoroughly entertained and any show that gives Larry Cunningham the opportunity to dance and sing is a friend of ours.

**Facts:** Rhino Bar is much bigger than it appears from its unassuming exterior. Inside the spacious split-level interior,

the décor is typical for a sports bar. Dark wood paneling, random posters, grimy bar stools, and a dance floor that can get pretty slippery towards the end of the night all add up to a casual laid-back atmosphere conducive to heavy drinking and rowdy behavior. The male to female ratio is generally tipped towards males, making it a good place for ladies to snag some numbers. Attire is casual on game days with a wide array of sports apparel being flaunted. Saturday nights are a tad bit dressier however, as college co-eds dominate the bar.

Luckily, on this particular Saturday night we got to avoid the college co-eds as we were sent to the upstairs bar upon our arrival. This area looks like a combination of The Max and Frosty Palace, only with poorer lighting. The space is very large, with an ample sized bar that fits numerous bartenders and bar-backs comfortably, what looked to be several pool tables covered in checkered, plastic tablecloths, and a bizarre assortment of leather couches.

Given the number of drinks consumed during the open bar, we're sure everyone was as grateful as we were that there were bathrooms located upstairs; however, we believe these were the only bathrooms located in the bar so we did end up having to interact with annoying undergrads after all.

**Issue:** Why was the upstairs the hottest, most crowded place ever? And why no shots included in the open bar?

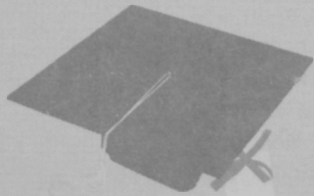
**Holding:** The line outside of Rhino wasn't too long when we got there but the door folks seemed to have some problems deciding who was a GW student and who was just a regular patron that picked the wrong night to come to Rhino. We were also thrilled to see the previously mentioned manager, being an ass as usual. There were some issues once we got upstairs but soon we were at the bar, and the bartenders could not have been nicer or more accommodating. Kudos to Rhino for actually providing more than 1 bartender for the upstairs bar- we only had to wait a few minutes each time (perhaps

too many times) we went to the bar for a drink and the bartenders were more than willing to give us multiple drinks at a time. Plus, much to our surprise, the tab actually lasted quite a while, maybe even too long for the two of us. And, while the upstairs was hot and crowded, it was still great to see so many GW students out socializing. Much props to all of you who joined us in a rousing rendition of Miley Cyrus' "See You Again"; obviously the public displays of talent didn't stop at the end of Law Revue.

**Rule:** While we still aren't completely sold on Rhino, we did have a great time last night (divey bar + free booze = happy Set and Lisa). Everyone we talked to and torture racked seemed to be having a blast. Overall, a great Law Revue after-party bar selection and we can't wait for next year's show.

*Do you have suggestions, comments, concerns or just need a bar recommendation? Email us at gwbarbrief@gmail.com.*

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FEATURES

Mmm Mmm, Malbec!

By JOON SONG  
Columnist

I love malbec. The best are sensual, sexy, medium- to full-bodied red wines that, at a price range between \$7.99 - \$11.99, are a great bargain. They are great with food or drunk alone—so terribly, terribly alone.

Malbec is sort of an immigrant grape. One of the up to six grapes used in Bordeaux wines, it rarely took center stage except in other more “rustic” regions like Cahors. It took the importation of this grape to the New World in the mid-1800s to give malbec the home it deserved.

The growing conditions in South America—especially Argentina—were ideal for malbec, which requires more sun and heat than cabernet sauvignon and merlot (its more famous compatriots). This allows for New World wines that are 100% malbec and 110% delicious.

One of the great things about malbec is that it’s like pizza or... certain other things: even bad malbec is decent. As far as bang for the buck, you can’t go wrong with malbec. However, as long as you’re spending money you might as well be buying a great bottle rather than a “bleh” bottle

My favorite malbec is from Maïpe, a producer from Mendoza, Argentina. Theirs is an intense, staining shade of deep purple. It pulses with an animal, sensual energy. There are dusty fruit aromas that, upon drinking, fill your mouth with an utterly satisfying, powerful explosion of plum, chocolate, earth. It’s a bronze fist covered with a silk glove. It is delicious by itself, with chocolate, with anything you can throw at it—I wouldn’t, however, pair it with fish or anything too delicate. The Maïpe would destroy any gentle partner.

The best thing about the Maïpe malbec is that it’s \$9.99. You can find it at Cairo Wine & Liquor in Dupont Circle or Calvert-Woodley Wines off the Van Ness Metro station. You can also find other fine wines from Maïpe, including their terrific malbec rosé and their bonarda.

Another good example is the Tierra Prometida malbec (\$12.99) from Bodegas Enosur of Mendoza, Argentina. This wine is a solid malbec, dense but silky, tasting of plum and chocolate and a whiff of tobacco. I once had a bottle with a beef tenderloin roast. Eaten with the roast the wine revealed notes of herb and pepper—a very good match with the

thyme and rosemary on the tenderloin. A similar wine is the Domiciano de Barrancas “Cosecha Nocturna,” which is \$10.99 at The Wine Specialist.

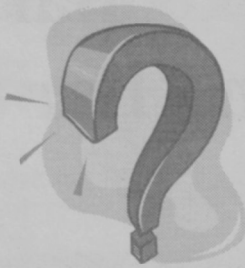
You might also come across the malbec from Bodega Norton (\$12.00-\$14.00). Bodega Norton is frequently mentioned in magazines and online reviews. This estate was established in 1895 by an English engineer, making it the first winery in the now-famous Mendoza region of Argentina. While Bodega Norton makes a relatively decent malbec, it’s not the best example out there. It has a rather limpid body—it lacks “oomph.” Compared to the Maïpe, this wine is uninspired and uninspiring.

An actually disappointing malbec is from Budini (\$9.99): weak, but unlike the Norton not even quaffable. It’s rare for me not to finish a bottle once it’s opened. I threw the Budini away.

You will also find many malbec blends, very commonly with cabernet and/or merlot. These blends are often described as “Bordeaux style” and can be refined and graceful wines. One of these is the Amancaya Malbec / Cabernet Sauvignon blend from Mendoza, Argentina, which at around \$19.99 is more expensive than any other malbec I’ve ever had in my life. Then again, it does have unparalleled lineage, representing a joint venture between Nicolás Catena and the famous Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite) of Bordeaux. This wine combined the power of Argentine malbec and the finesse of Bordeaux. It was purple—but bright and not brooding. Black cherry, plum, licorice. Good tannin. A wonderful, very pleasing wine which you will be able to find at The Wine Specialist on M Street.

All of the wines I wrote about in this column are from Argentina, and specifically from Mendoza. One could characterize Mendoza as the pre-eminent wine-growing region in Argentina; that being said, it’s amazing that its wines are still available for very reasonable prices. You can also find malbec from Australia, South Africa, Chile, and the United States, but you will rarely go wrong with a bottle from Mendoza. Next time you’re out at a steak restaurant or just browsing through a wine store, take a chance on malbec. You won’t be disappointed.

women serve in the military, and none of the 24 nations that allow gays and lesbians to openly serve have reported morale problems. The Obama administration has promised to move to repeal DADT as part of his plans to restore military readiness and build an army for the 21st century. Until then, the military continues to lose much-needed service members—some of whom the military has spent years and hundreds of thousands of dollars training—under DADT. Since 1993, DADT has forced the discharge of more than 12,500 Americans, all willing and able to serve in the military in a time when our security forces have been stretched increasingly thin. DADT has utterly failed



Ask Yunji!

By YUNJI KIM  
Columnist

Dear Yunji,  
I have a crush on Natalie Timmers, the Lexis-lady - she’s really pretty. Would it be inappropriate to ask her out to the Barrister’s Ball? Also, would it be tacky if I give her a present that I bought with Westlaw points?

Yours truly,

Pining Away in the Uptowner

Dear Pining,

While Natalie would love to party with drunk lawyers and law students, the invite to Barrister’s would have to be for two: one for her, and one for her fabulous lawyer boyfriend. “As to gifts purchased with Westlaw points, as long as it’s not a Westlaw laptop bag or cooler, I’ll [Natalie] take it!!!”

So, Pining my friend, it looks like you’ll have to look for your date to the auspicious event elsewhere. Try looking around amongst your fellow students. There are many eligible women in the law school who would love to be asked. May I cite as an example - oh, say, I don’t know - an awesomely single Korean-Canadian 2L who enjoys champagne brunches and long walks by the monuments, and who already has a lovely navy silk dress, yet STILL no date to the Ball?

You know where to find her.

Sincerely,  
Yunji

Got a question about what’s going around the law school, Foggy Bottom, or the world in general? Email notabenegw@gmail.com and ask what’s on your mind. Yunji has the answer!

to justify itself morally or practically, and the fact that so many universities will only subject their students to its discrimination under financial duress is just one more red flag that signals how malignant this

**If you think DADT is impractical, immoral, or both, please let Congress and others know.**

policy is.

The good news is that there are a number of active efforts in the D.C. area to protest DADT and help people who find themselves in a situation like Mr. Belok’s. If you think DADT is impractical, immoral, or both, please let Congress and others know. When you next attend a career fair where the military is recruiting, stop by the table that Lambda will (probably) have set up to give students an opportunity to protest the discrimination. Also, the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network will be holding its Freedom to Serve Rally on March 13th at noon at the U.S. Capitol, with a Lobby Day event in the morning on the same day (for more information, visit [www.sldn.org](http://www.sldn.org)). And as always, you can contact your Senator and Representative to ask them to stop allowing this discrimination and repeal DADT.

**Sharpton from page 2.**

and inciting outrage to any perceived indignation is the way of the past. America is ready to move on and continue building racial cohesion. Al Sharpton has not been one to reach out and actually strive for unity. His tirades are aimed more at

getting face time in front of the camera, now more than ever.

Sharpton was quoted, referring to the Post, as asking “are they inferring that a monkey wrote the last bill?” They probably were, but Al Sharpton, not the Post, was the first to insinuate that the monkey might be Obama, and not the legislators who actually wrote the bill. In doing so he disregarded the facts and played off the notion that people don’t really know anything about what actually goes on in government, so as to manufacture a racial incident for his own self-serving agenda. The real Al Sharpton cares more about his own publicity than actually improving racial relations, and he is now apparently willing to stand in the way of progress in to serve his self-aggrandizing narcissism.



## FEATURES

TERENCE G. SCHOONE-JONGEN

*De Novo Days**Journal Competition Giving You Hives? Just Breathe*

Thank goodness. It is less than a week until Spring Break. I don't know about you, but I've been under a hefty amount of stress these last few weeks. Indeed, my stress has been such that I have intermittently forgotten to do things, such as write my Nota Bene article for this issue on time. So, here I am, two days late, hoping that I can get this thing turned in to the powers that be in time for the next issue. The excitement and suspense are killing me. Softly.

Anyway, it's been a busy second semester. This is the way of the world, however. I don't really think there's any way around it, and there's not really any good way to beat the stress that comes with second semester. I just sort of try to embrace it, recognize that often times stress makes me more productive (both in terms of quantity and quality), and try my darnedest to avoid obsessing over factors beyond my control (e.g., the passage of time).

Personally, I think the stress of second semester—or at least my stress—is entirely worth it. Most of my recent stress

has centered on the Law Revue show, just concluded last night. I think it came together very well. Perhaps I will reflect more on that in my next column, but for now it is sufficient to note that the stress associated with the show is entirely welcome, so far as I am concerned. Even so, I'm ready for a break. Thus, the prospect of boogiein' down to St. Maarten next Tuesday for five days of beach lounging and Heineken Regatta-watching sounds marvelous.

Ah, but now I'm rubbing it in, aren't I? A large portion of my readers have other fish to fry upon commencement of Spring Break. The whispers, murmurs, conversations, and flat out screams can be heard on a daily basis: the Journal Competition looms.

Not so long ago, this august publication ran an article about what journal membership may or may not mean. I'm not entirely sure of my feelings on that question; I am uninterested in status symbols and flaunting my credentials, but I am also interested in doing what I can to help get myself a real job, finally.

I do, at some point, have to start acting like a grownup, at least in terms of pulling down a regular check. Beyond that, I rather like how I've been living as of late. Anyway. Whatever the merits or demerits of journal membership, a bunch of you will be participating in

*I am uninterested in status symbols and flaunting my credentials, but I am also interested in doing what I can to help get myself a real job, finally.*

the competition this coming weekend. I would therefore like to unveil three tips for making the experience one that won't make you spit whenever it comes up in conversation down the road.

1. Don't be a hermit that entire weekend. If you do absolutely nothing but the journal competition the entire weekend, your thinking will be completely clouded by Monday, or whenever your submission is due. Take some judicious breaks. Consider going out at least one of the evenings of the competition. Be reasonable, of course, but don't be dully single-minded. Your submission might end up reflecting that.

2. Don't go out every night of the weekend. It is possible that I know someone who did live it up on the Thursday, Friday, and, to a limited extent, Saturday evenings of the competition. That someone may still have made a journal, but that someone also was fairly miserable on Sunday night, when that someone stayed up until 5 a.m. finishing the competition because that someone had an early afternoon flight to catch on Monday. If, however, you do find yourself in a position similar to that of this individual with whom I am acquainted, the Gelman library isn't a bad place to work in the middle of the night. That Starbucks is open 24 hours on Sunday nights, so there are plenty of vanilla lattes to be had, if necessary. Although this type of behavior is now the stuff of legends, I would again strongly counsel against behaving as this someone did.

3. Be wary of photocopiers and printers with low ink. Those bastards will get you every time, if you're not careful. Every technical problem will, in fact, actualize its potential during the course of the competition. You might as well count on it now. Go get your printer some ink the moment you are finished reading this column. This assumes that you have read to this point, of course. If you have already stopped, you have displayed great wisdom regarding time management, and you probably are all set when it comes to printer ink. For those of you still reading, knock it off and go to Staples, already.

*Shirtsleeves from page 2.*

ing slow coming. But what is troubling is how the Hope has dimmed smewhat, the Change does not appear to be grounded in sound logic, and the Unity, diminished by Obama pins in place of flag pins, is one built as much upon anxiety, fear, and for some, outright despair. The problems that we face are far greater than what can be accomplished by one man, no matter how patriotic he might be. It will take a nation, unified by principles rather than emotions, to bring the change we seek.

At the extremes on both sides of the aisle, we see the stigmata of their faithful. The Liberal Left has appears to be blindly throwing darts at an economic problem they have yet to truly define, making many realize for the first time the nuanced reality that economic stimulus

really does involve more than just increasing spending. The hallmarks, the earmarks, of either faith or greed found throughout statutes authorizing trillions of dollars of federal liabilities over the next decade, "stimulata," if you will, are likely only to slow our long-term recovery. This is their equivalent of lacking a viable exit strategy.

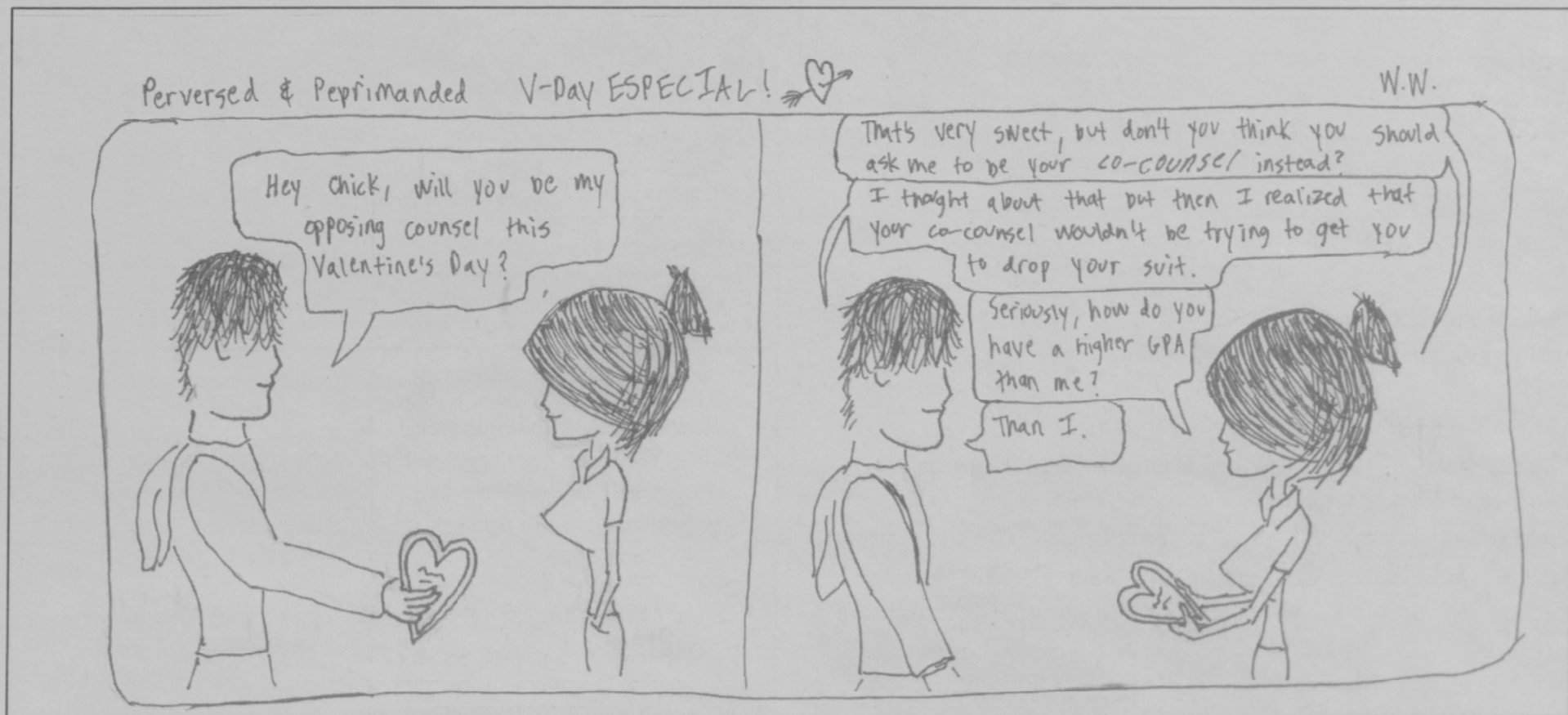
The Conservative Right is playing its minority role, generally offering criticism and road blocks, without presenting viable alternatives of its own. One wonders if this might be an opportunity for a rebirth of true conservatism, in a way that reverses the trend of both vocabulary and practice. The decline of the conservative movement, which might have begun with then-Governor

Bush's campaign of nominally qualified, "compassionate" conservatism, and proceeded with a total detachment from its small-government, decreased-spending platform, gives us little reason to believe that legislators who profess to possess those ideals actually have the discipline to practice them.

With neither side offering much that makes sense, what are we, as common Americans, to do? What are we left with, besides a broken system, highlighted by schizophrenic rumors about whether the banks are going to be nationalized, and a media that does not respect the role of consumer confidence in economic health but instead treats the beginning of every night as though they were brow-beaten into shock that our

economy, one day after the last newscast, still hasn't recovered?

We try to grow. We try harder to put aside the pettiness that often divides us. We refuse to allow business bandits and self-interested politicians belittle us by their own blatant ethics flaps. We put our efforts toward true progress, and programs that will actually work. We accept our history, but refuse to accept the notion that we continue to be a nation of cowards with respect to anything – race, spirit, ingenuity – and instead choose to shine in the resilience we have proved time and again. We put away our campaign regalia and begin once again to think of ourselves as one Nation, indivisible.





## THE BACK PAGE

# ON THE DOCKET

## law school events

### Wednesday February 25

#### Procurement in the Western World: Government Procurement in the EU and Beyond

Enjoy this whirl-wind tour of web sites related to the EU Procurement Directive. To register, visit the Jacob Burns Law Library's course site on TWEN and click on "sign up for library training." If you don't see the Jacob Burns Law Library listed for your TWEN courses, you may need to add it by clicking the "add a course" tab on the TWEN page. For more information, contact Matthew Mantel, Reference/Government Contracts Librarian, email: [mmantel@law.gwu.edu](mailto:mmantel@law.gwu.edu).

2:00PM - 3:00PM, L401

### Wednesday February 25

#### Dinner and a Movie

Join the International Law Society, the Human Rights Law Society and the Feminist Forum for Dinner and a Movie: "The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo." Space is limited RSVP to Dawna Steelman at [dsteelman@law.gwu.edu](mailto:dsteelman@law.gwu.edu)

6:00-8:30PM, SCC

### Friday February 27

#### Private Enforcement of Competition Law: New Directions

The GW Competition Law Center hosts this conference with the goal of promoting discussion among policymakers, practitioners, and academics -- from the United States and abroad -- about new policy initiatives relating to private enforcement, emerging experience, and new research initiatives.

9:00AM, L101

### Spring Recess Begins

No class.

### Sunday March 8

#### HEART Training Class

Humane Education Training Session from 10am-1pm. Contact Joan Schaffner at [jschaf@law.gwu.edu](mailto:jschaf@law.gwu.edu) if interested in attending.

10:00AM-1:00PM

### Monday March 9

#### International Law Week Begins

#### "Fact-Finding Without Facts: The Uncertain Evidentiary Foundations of International Criminal Convictions" by Professor Nancy Combs

The Global Workshop Series presents Prof N. Combs, William & Mary School of Law speaking on "Fact-Finding Without Facts: The Uncertain Evidentiary Foundations of International Criminal Convictions."

3:50PM - 5:50PM, E312

## Horoscopes

ARIES (MARCH 21—APRIL 19)

Tequila is, indeed, your best friend at the moment.

TAURUS (APRIL 20—MAY 20)

We're thankful Spring Break is around the corner, too - but please put away the speedo. At least when there are small children around...

GEMINI (MAY 21—JUNE 21)

Don't think of a big pink elephant. AHA! Got you.

CANCER (JUNE 22—JULY 22)

You left something at Rhinobar last week, what was it? Oh, yeah - your dignity. They'll hold it for two weeks, but then it's going to the Salvation Army. Better run down there quick.

LEO (JULY 23—AUG. 22)

With the economy in the toilet, you should really reconsider that idea of becoming an exotic dancer.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

I bet you could use a nice Malbec right about now. See, e.g., Joon Song.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23—OCT. 23)

Better stay away from the Lexis/Westlaw room, now that Natalie Timmers' boyfriend knows there's a bunch of 2Ls stalking her...

SCORPIO (OCT. 24—NOV. 21)

Avoid spring break-ers.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22—DEC. 21)

I officially nominate you for the new SBA position of Partier in Chief.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22—JAN. 19)

You will find true love at the Trader Joe's coffee stand.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20—FEB. 18)

Suck it.

PISCES (FEB. 19—MARCH 20)

Sorry, I don't have anything for this one - I got distracted by something shiny.

### Tuesday March 10

#### Using the Free Web for Legal Research: Strategies for Success

Bring your laptop and sharpen your web research skills! This library research session will introduce the most authoritative free internet sources for U.S. primary legal materials

12:00PM - 1:00PM, S304

### Wednesday March 11

#### Academic Advising by Deans, Faculty, and Adjuncts.

Register for the chance to win additional registration priorities.

3:00PM - 6:00PM, SCC

## Hearsay

Function: noun

1 : some random evidence term

2 : hilarious statements made around GW Law

Overheard in Intelligence Law:

"The "war" on terror is as arbitrary as the war on drugs, or the war on abstinence . . . a war I fought in high school . . ."

Hear something funny in class or around the law school? Email Hearsay at [notabenegw@gmail.com](mailto:notabenegw@gmail.com)